

REMARKS

In the Office action, claims 31-42 and 51-56 have been allowed, claims 44-47 have been rejected, and claim 48 has been objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim. As a result of this amendment, Claims 1-30, 43-47 and 49-50 have now all been canceled. Claims 31, 40, 42, 48, and 51 have been amended. The rejections and objections are addressed below.

Amendments to Specification

Several paragraphs in the specification are being amended to correct a clerical error. The paragraphs originally referred to "the invention" as opposed to "an embodiment of the invention." As indicated in the application in paragraphs 0018 and 0074, the specification relates only to embodiments of the invention, and the amendments to the specification make this clear. Because the specification is stated to only refer to embodiments of the invention (paragraphs 0018 and 0074), no new matter has been added.

Objections to the Drawings

In its last response, Applicant submitted formal drawings for all drawing sheets in the application, including those for figures 11-21. The Examiner has continued his objection to the drawings, stating that there are illegible reference numerals/labels in figs. 11-21. Applicant has reviewed figs. 11-21 but has found them in compliance with 37 CFR 1.84. In particular, all of the reference numerals are typed, 1/8" in height, and are not placed in the drawing so as to interfere with its comprehension. Applicant requests that the objection be withdrawn or further clarification from the Examiner as to what he deems illegible.

Amendments to the Claims

Claims 31, 40, and 42 have been amended to correct the informalities suggested by the Examiner and relating primarily to punctuation. Although not specifically objected

to, claim 51 has been amended in a similar manner. These amendments do not affect the scope of the claim.

Claim 48 was objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but was found to include allowable subject matter. Claim 48 has been amended to incorporate all of the limitations of Claim 47. Accordingly, Claim 47 has not been altered in scope.

Rejections under 35 USC 102

Claims 44-47 were rejected under 35 USC § 102. Claims 44-47 have been canceled rendering the rejection moot. Claims 44-47 have been canceled in order to move this case on to allowance and Applicant reserves the right to pursue these claims in a continuation application.

Conclusion

It is respectfully submitted that the application is now in condition for allowance and, accordingly, reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested. Should any questions remain regarding the allowability of the application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number indicated below.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment of fees which may be required by this paper to Deposit Account No. 502466 including any fee for extension of time, or the fee for additional claims which may be required. Please show our docket number with any Deposit Account transaction. **A copy of this letter is enclosed.**

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Respectfully submitted,

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